



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Masatoshi SHIRAISHI et al.

Application No.: 10/735,926

Filed: December 16, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: OMY-0034

Examiner: D. Chacko Davis

Art Unit: 1756

Confirmation No.: 4251

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD AND SUBSTRATE PROCESSING
APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits after filing the accompanying Request for Continued Examination under Rule 114 and in response to the final Office Action dated October 3, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

Claims 1-21 and 31-38 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 22-30 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 31-38 are added and claims 1-21 are withdrawn from further consideration.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

(There are no amendments to the drawings)

III. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

(There are no amendments to the specification)